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NEWSLETTER

of the

Hawaiian Botanical Society

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H A W A I I A N B O T A N I C A L G A R D E N S F O U N D A T I O N, I N C.

Annual Report of the President for 1963
by
W. W. G. Moir
January 21, 1964

Our 1962 report ended with high hopes for 1963. Today, the beginning of our new year, finds us in somewhat the same position looking at present plans and wishing they would soon materialize. Much happened during 1963 to change our tactics toward our main objective -- A National Tropical Botanical Garden.

As we closed last year we had secured the survey report from the Botanical Society of America and were awaiting that from the U.S.D.A. It is extremely gratifying to report that both reports endorsed our efforts completely and gave us much to think about. The details of these reports were different; thoughts on size and scope of research, although different, gave us considerable help. We had expected these differences from teams composed of outstanding men in different fields of work. Remember, we had chosen the several sites, which they surveyed, for the express purpose of first, to see if possible locations for a garden did exist in Hawaii; second, to find their reactions to areas of different size, climate and exposure; and third, to convince and educate our own people more fully of the value and usefulness of a garden. We could not have gotten two finer reports fully supporting the need for the establishment of a National Tropical Botanical Garden.

The additional support and aid from over fifty sponsoring organizations further testified to the National need. The following organizations have become sponsors since the last meeting:

The American Horticultural Society, Inc.
American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums
The Wilderness Society
The Society of Economic Botany
The Hawaiian Botanical Society

We now have about 30 National Societies, Universities, Gardens and Councils from outside the State of Hawaii acting as sponsors. Within the state we have about 25 sponsors in government, business, research, community affairs, plant societies and educational groups backing us.

Having lost out on the bills for a survey in the 87th Congress we got two surveys instead. With all that we had learned from these surveys and our problems in Congress we concluded that we should seek a National Charter for a Tropical Botanical Garden stressing the national need and not just a garden for Hawaii. Our attorney in Washington was asked to draw up a bill for this Charter. After much discussion and review the Bill was completed. Senators Fong and Inouye sponsored the Bill in the Senate and it now bears the number S.1991. In this Bill are named five Trustees for the Charter:

SHOUT
SHARE
IT

Henry Francis du Pont, Winterthur, Delaware
Deane Waldo Malott, Ithaca, N. Y.
Horace Marden Albright, Los Angeles, California
Robert Allerton, Kauai, Hawaii
Paul Bigelow Sears, New Haven, Connecticut

These are all men of national stature and not actively connected with any university or garden. This is most important when seeking a private endowment for the Garden. These men, together with their associates and successors, are responsible for the creation of the National Tropical Botanical Garden. They will be the initial board of Trustees and are authorized to complete the organization of the corporation by the selection of other trustees and officers, adopt bylaws, and do such other acts necessary to carry into effect the provisions of the Act to create the Garden.

Our decision to seek a privately endowed corporation was arrived at after much thought. Continuity of projects, purposes and research seemed greater under a private endowment.

The Botanical Society of America at their annual meeting this last summer again strongly endorsed the need for a National Tropical Botanical Garden. Letters to all members of the 88th Congress were written by this society urging action on S.1991. Many other sponsors have expressed their willingness to help and organized planning is being undertaken to give them the necessary material to do so.

We have not as yet had the bill sponsored in the House but are certain that in the very near future this will be done. The delay has been fortunate in some ways so that the thoughts of the sponsors could be clarified and strengthened. The University of Hawaii has again more firmly asserted its sponsorship and we sincerely appreciate their help and support.

We would like to stress again the need for basic research in connection with this Garden and the terrific support it should receive from its many sponsoring organizations in this field of science.

If this Garden is placed in Hawaii, and we sincrely hope and strongly feel it will, it should be able to draw on and cooperate with all of Hawaii's many research and plant investigating facilities. Primarily it should be of tremendous value to the University of Hawaii and the East West Center in their efforts to aid and educate peoples of the tropics desiring such help. It does not hurt to reiterate here that our brochures, letters, T.V. programs, conversations and discussions have always stressed the need of research and cooperation with all in Hawaii and we sincerely hope that this will remain the policy of the new Corporate body. The Foundation will always have its usefulness just as in the case of the California Arboretum Foundation in its work with the Los Angeles Arboretum at Arcadia. Our main objective has been a National Tropical Botanical Garden but we also have our other objectives of helping all botanical gardens in the state as well as aiding conservation.

Our own financial position is excellent due to the great generosity of our friends. To all the donors we again express our thanks and appreciation. Several special endowment funds have been set up. The increased number of trustees on our board has resulted in better consideration of problems and I express my thanks to them all for their aid and support.

It is very sad to record the passing of another honorary member -- Mr. George Munro, who, like Dr. Joseph Rock, did much for tropical botany and the making of it more knowledgeable for all. Mr. Munro's living memorial -- Na Laau Hawaii is a daily reminder of what one man's efforts can do for the benefit of all mankind. We take pleasure in recording here also our admiration and appreciation of the support given that garden by the Garden Club of Honolulu and the State of Hawaii.

Again we wish to thank the Garden Club of Honolulu and all its associates in America for the help extended us to date in support of the Charter Bill. To all our sponsors helping in this project we also give our thanks and appreciation.

Besides our main objective we have aided many other causes during the year. Our many appearances before the City Council, the Planning Commission, the Land Use Committee, the Legislature and others on behalf of Foster Garden, Conservation and Parks, etc., have been useful in bringing our Foundation before the public. Our T.V. appearances were helpful and probably as helpful to ourselves in preparing the program as to others.

We shall need all your help again and we sincerely look forward to much more progress by another year. You can all help get the Charter through the 88th Congress. Surely there are friends, organizations here or elsewhere in our country to which you can appeal for support of the Charter Bill. Soon the new brochure will be available and it should help you carry this out. We need your help. Thanks for your cooperation.

Aloha.

E D I T O R 'S N O T E

The Hawaiian Botanical Society has been a contributing member of the Hawaiian Botanical Gardens Foundation since its establishment. The Society later voted to become a sponsor organization of the Hawaiian Botanical Gardens Foundation.

As we go to press information arrives that a bill (HR 9893) to grant a national charter to the Hawaiian Botanical Gardens Foundation has just been introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative Matsunaga.

This legislation merits and requires the most vigorous support of all botanists and conservationists. Many critical species, genera, and even families face a tragic future under the devastating practices of shifting agriculture (burn-plant for 2-3 years abandon) that dominates the tropical regions of the world. These critical groups must be provided a haven in botanic gardens if we are to gain the broad advancements anticipated for the plant sciences.

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CONFESSION OF A MOLECULAR BOTANIST

Presented by G. Ledyard Stebbins
Botanical Society of America, Annual Dinner,
August 28, 1963

I am the very pattern of a botanist molecular
I've information chemical and infra-organellular
I know the structure ultra-fine of phage and coli chromosomes
I ve cracked the code from DNA to RNA and ribosomes.
I'm also well acquainted with reactions enzymatical
I work out their kinetics using formulae quadratical
From electronic resonance to physics of the solid state,
And all the clever methods by which cells of microbes conjugate.
In all these matters chemical and infra-organellular
I am the very pattern of a botanist molecular.
I also know a lot about that stuff you folks call botany
I know that weeds and trees have leaves, and fungi haven't got any,
I'm sure that horsetails, lycopods, and ferns and so forth don't have seeds,
I heard today that 2-4 is . . . rather good for killing weeds.
The latest dope about conduction vascular I'll tell you now,
I know that water flows up xylem fibres . . . but I don't care how.
And--ugh, Taxonomy!
That I can't use a key to species doesn't bother me at all.
I just work out their matrices on my computer digital
But yet in all things chemical and infra-organellular
I am the very pattern of a botanist molecular.

From the Plant Science Bulletin, December 1963.

ORGANIZATION NOTES

NEW MEMBERS: Dr. Richard W. Hartman
Dept. of Horticulture
University of Hawaii

Dr. Donald P. Watson
Dept. of Horticulture
University of Hawaii

FEBRUARY MEETING: The Hawaiian Botanical Society February Meeting was held on Monday evening, Feb. 3. Beatrice Krauss introduced the motion that the Society go on record as opposed to any plans for the introduction of Axis Deer to the island of Hawaii. Dr. Lamoureux and Miss Krauss were asked to send a letter of protest to the State Division of Fish and Game, 400 South Beretania St., Honolulu. Interested members are urged to send similar letters in the interest of protecting our indigenous flora.

The program was presented by Dr. A. C. Smith, Director of Research at the University of Hawaii. Dr. Smith spoke on "The distribution of primitive extant Angiosperms".

MARCH PROGRAM: The next meeting will convene on Monday, March 2, at 7:30 P.M. in Agee Hall, H.S.P.A. Experiment Station, Keeaumoku St. The program will be on JAPANESE GARDENS, presented by Dr. Horace F. Clay of the East-West Center; Dr. Hiroko Ikeda, curator of the Japan and Ryukyu collections at Sinclair Library and specialist in Japanese folklore; and Mr. George S. Walters, President, Hawaii Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. This will be a joint presentation as follows:

Dr. Clay: Plant Materials
Mr. Walters: Landscape Features
Dr. Ikeda: Folklore and Traditions

B O T A N I C A L N O T E S

VISITORS: Dr. H. V. Stauffer of the Botanical Museum at the University of Zurich will spend the month of April in Honolulu. Dr. Stauffer is a specialist in Santalaceae and will be studying Hawaiian representatives of Santalum and Exocarpus. Dr. Stauffer would like to rent a furnished room or small apartment for the month of April. Anyone knowing of such quarters that will be available at that time is asked to contact Dr. C. H. Lamoureux, Department of Botany, University of Hawaii, phone 918-218.

Dr. A. R. H. Martin from the University of Sydney was a December visitor at the Bishop Museum and University of Hawaii. During his stay Dr. Martin obtained fossil materials from the Salt Lake deposits with Dr. Lamoureux, called at the Lyon Arboretum, and saw many indigenous species on brief field trips.

Dr. and Mrs. Veikko Sorsa from the University of Helsinki visited at the Bishop Museum and the University of Hawaii in late December. They also conducted several field trips on Hawaii, Maui, Kauai, and Oahu. Dr. Sorsa is studying the chromosomes of ferns, and Mrs. Sorsa is interested in the biosystematics of Viola. Both are Fulbright grantees at the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. George Mason, plant physiologist with Ivon Watkins, Ltd., New Plymouth, New Zealand, visited the University of Hawaii in early February.

DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE: Dr. Horace F. Clay has joined the staff of the East-West Center as a coordinator in the Division of Technical Interchange as of 1 January 1964. Dr. Robert Warner and cooperating plant scientists are establishing an Instructional Arboretum at the Waimanalo Station of the Agricultural Experiment Station. Mr. Yukio Nakagawa has just returned from American Samoa where he was a consultant for the Department of Agriculture in the production of vegetable crops. Mr. Warren Yee has been invited as a consultant by the Pan-Pacific Company to discuss horticultural advancement in Taiwan, Philippines, and Hong Kong.

HAWAIIAN SUGAR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION: The 83rd Annual Meeting of the HSPA was held at the Experiment Station from December 3rd to 5th. Highlights of the meeting including: 1) the introduction of R. L. Cushing, the new Director of the Station; 2) discussion of proposed international research coordination in the sugar industry by L. D. Baver; 3) panel on various aspects of variety research by J. N. Warner, C. A. Wismer, H. Koike and L. G. Nickell; 4) discussion on herbicides by N. S. Hanson and H. Wayne Hilton; 5) panel on cane nutrition and fertilization by G. S. Stanford and L. G. Nickell; and 6) panel on irrigation which included R. B. Campbell and L. G. Nickell.

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H A W A I I A N B O T A N I C A L S O C I E T Y

c/o Department of Botany, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

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Dr. James L. Brewbaker (chairman), Dept. Horticulture, Univ. Hawaii.
Robert E. Fraker, Plant Quarantine Div. ARS, USDA, P.O. Box 9067, Hon.

The HAWAIIAN BOTANICAL SOCIETY was founded in 1924 to "advance the science of Botany in all its applications, encourage research in Botany in all its phases," and "promote the welfare of its members and to develop the spirit of good fellowship and cooperation among them." "Any person interested in the plant life of the Hawaiian Islands is eligible for membership in this Society."

E D I T O R I A L S T A F F

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The Hawaiian Botanical Society Newsletter is published in February, April, June, October, and December. It is distributed to all Society members and other interested individuals and institutions, with the purpose of informing them about botanical news and progress in Hawaii and the Pacific. News contributions and articles are welcomed. The deadline for submission of news items is the 20th of each month prior to publication.

Duplicated at the Pineapple Research Institute of Hawaii.
Membership dues are $2.00 per calendar year and include receipt of the Newsletter.

HAWAIIAN BOTANICAL SOCIETY
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